

COUNTRY

TOPIC

1. Polish Troops in Bydgoszcz

25X1A

2. Signal Unit in Lowicz

25X1X

25X1A

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1A

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 27 January 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1X

Polish Troops in Bydgoszcz.

1. Polish KBW and infantry units were quartered at the former Artillery Barracks which were located at the intersection of Artyleryjska Street (north side) and Al. 1-go Maja south of Polnocna Street in the north section of Bydgoszcz (Bromberg P 54/J 09). The old barracks installation had been repaired and consisted of about 20 four-story brick buildings including 2 large angular buildings and was divided into two sections. A battalion-sized animal-drawn infantry unit of 4 or 5 companies, with cover number 5521 A, was quartered in the south section of the barracks. This unit was attached to the headquarters of a two-digit numbered infantry division which was quartered in a large multi-story building at the west end and south of Pospnanska Street. According to a soldier [redacted] the headquarters building was guarded by infantrymen from the former Artillery Barracks. The infantry troops wore red collar patches and red cap ribbons and were armed with light infantry weapons. There were only a few vehicles at the barracks installation. Training took place in the barracks yard or at the training area of the post northeast of the town. Elements of a KBW regiment with a total strength of about 7 companies were in the north section of the barracks installation, while other components of the regiment were billeted in other barracks in the town. CO of the regiment was a colonel who was frequently seen at the barracks installation. [redacted] that the regiment wore blue service color and was attached to a higher-level KBW headquarters in Bydgoszcz. [redacted] the period of service with this regiment was 27 months. 1

25X1X

25X1X

2. [redacted] that elements of the KBW regiment were also quartered at the former Infantry Barracks north of the former Artillery Barracks on the north side of Polnocna Street prior to February 1951. This installation consisted of some old and new four-story brick buildings, some sheds and some low buildings which were surrounded by a wall, about 2 meters high. The troops quartered there were estimated at 4 or 5 companies. They were armed with light infantry weapons and trench mortars. Only a few trucks were at the installation. The soldiers wore khaki uniforms with blue

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

25X1A

SECRET,

- 2 -

service color and shirtlike blouses. [REDACTED] a student at the officers' school, wore pentagon-shaped collar patches with yellow oak leaves, a sword and, on the blue epaulets, the interlaced letters OS embroidered with yellow threads and narrow silver braids at the end of his khaki coat sleeve. His trousers were dark-blue with a 50-mm broad stripe of still darker blue color.¹ 25X1X

3. A nine-man Soviet signal detail wearing black epaulets was quartered in a large building of this barracks installation prior to February 1951. It was charged with Soviet long-distance communications. No other Soviet units or headquarters were known. A few Soviet officers were occasionally seen in the town.²
4. Elements of the KBW regiment also occupied to capacity the barracks installation southeast of the main railroad station on the south side of Zygmunt Augusta Street close to source's working place. The installation consisted of about 10 multi-story buildings and was surrounded by a brick wall. No motor vehicles or heavy weapons were observed.³
5. An officer candidate school for various branches, including KBW, was in the former military academy on the east side of Al. 1-go Maja opposite the former Artillery Barracks until February 1951. This school consisted of a large four-story building with wings and some smaller buildings. No KBW or infantry candidates were quartered in that school; they only came to attend specific courses.⁴
6. The local voivodship headquarters of the Citizens' Militia was on the west side of Gdanska Street between Chocimska and Swietjanska Streets about 500 meters south of the former Artillery Barracks.

Signal Unit in Lowicz.

7. About 4 a.m. on 13 September 1952, [REDACTED] four radio trucks were parking in the north section of Lowicz (Q 53/P 27) west of the main railroad line to Poznan (Eisen F 53/X 26). 25X1X

25X1A

1. Comment. Although numerous reports by resettlers on the former Artillery and Infantry Barracks are available and date about the same period, the situation remains unclear because of numerous inconsistencies. The 5th KBW Regt, to which the reported units appear to belong, is carried stationed in Bydgoszcz. The headquarters of the 2d MD is carried as army office, while no division headquarters was reported. There is a possibility that the headquarters of the 14th Inf Div stationed in Deutsch Krone (Malca) may have been in Bydgoszcz during the period under observation. The reports on the KBW uniforms appear to be correct.

SECRET,

25X1A

SECRET/

- 3 -

25X1A

2. Comment. Similar Soviet units were known to be stationed along the Soviet transit lines throughout Poland.

- 25X1A 3. Comment. According to another report, this barracks installation was vacant in August 1951. The KBW unit was possibly absent in August 1951.

- 25X1A 4. Comment. It is believed that the headquarters of the 2d MD has been quartered there since the summer of 1951. A KBW school was reported in the former Artillery Barracks in June 1951.

SECRET/